

An;  
Inaugural Dissertation,  
On,  
Homoeopathy.  
Presented to the faculty of;  
Homoeopathic College.  
For the  
Degree of Doctor of Medicine  
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Homoeopathy:

After the lapse of ages of patient, & long endurance we are blessed with the philosophy of Medicine, for indeed it is so deeply imbued with the coloring of truth, that all who have eyes & wish to see can investigate with certainty its true nature. The most important of all amidst the many improvements which has of late years been introduced into almost every branch of human knowledge, is this law of cure. Medical Science no longer shut up in the monastery, has risen from her lethargy of centuries & is gone abroad on the mighty wing of her own energy conquering & to conquer. Truth is awake busily in unsealing the vision of human



nature, & freeing its limbs from the shackles of error, which has precipitated so many of our fellowbeings with untold tortures.

Look abroad where science struggling with the shades of night, breaks like the breakers through the gloom, startling the firmament. This is a heavenly sign, that virtue is reviving among men. While the celestial marriage of goodness with its truth, so long lost, shall be restored. Homoeopathy is based upon this ever true aphorism, — Similia Similibus Curantur — Who revealed to us this long buried & scientific law of cure? I answer the immortal Hahnemann, of whom well may the electorate of Saxony boast of having produced so great a worth & benefactor of

mankind. Hahnemann, after having  
 completed his orthodox curriculum,  
 with some years of thoughtful & in-  
 telligent experience, he takes rather  
 a desponding view of Medical practice,  
 he with diligent attention, learned  
 the delusive nature of the ordina-  
 ry methods of treatments. He says: it  
 was painful to me to grope in the  
 dark, guided by our books in the tra-  
 tment of disease - to prescribe accord-  
 ing to this or that hypothetical---  
 view of the nature of disease, sub-  
 stances that owe to mere opinion  
 their place in the Materia Med-  
 ica. He had conscientious scrup-  
 les in treating unknown morbid  
 states by Medicines, of its pathogene-  
 tic effect he knew nothing. He could  
 not be blinded by the wavering



& prophetic speculation of empiricism. 4

Thus by this mighty conviction, with much anxiety & solicitude, he revealed to man, the greatest boon of Heaven; the compass to steer the tempest-tost bark of life to its wished for shore. That Medicines have the power of curing diseases, similar to those they produce in the healthy. He does not deny that before this perplexing problem was properly solved, that medicine was utterly ineffective of permanent good, on the contrary, he adverts again & again to cures in the highest degree remarkable as having been performed in every age. But he conceived the want of a fundamental law, by which remedies proving servicable at one time, could be made

made available in a like crisis, or in other words not to trifle with life by accidental Homoeopathy. Such cures sparkled here & there in every medical treatise. But accident which occasionally proved a happy expedient is a miserable substitute, a vortex of destruction, a confuser of human woes. Most of the vaunted trophies of Anti Pathy were made without the smallest assistance from any science under the Sun, but the result of mere accident, which led to the detection of a remedy, as has been the usual way in which remedies acting Homoeopathically have gotten into common use. It was then left for Samuel Hahnemann the ripe scholar profound Philosopher & great discoverer. A man characterised by powers



of mind of unparalleled investigation,  
 to furnish the key by which the  
 secret spring of our Materia Medi-  
 ca was touched & sprung from its  
 socket, revealing the law of scien-  
 tific medicine, founded upon the  
 law of nature. It will ever stand  
 in the scientific world a monume-  
 nt to his genius, & to which com-  
 ing ages will add volumes of useful-  
 ness. It was headed by this golden  
 chain. Similia Similibus Curan-  
 tur. A law by which we may be contin-  
 ued to devote ourselves, as the astron-  
 omer & chemist, to pure observation  
 & experiment. If we are ever mindful  
 of this aphorism, we shall be in-  
 finitely elevated above the hobby of  
 medical science in all ages of wild &  
 prophetic speculation, or hypothesis.

Which has been the shoals & quicksands  
of the past history of Medicine.-----

Since the veil of this universal  
law has been cleared away, what a vast  
& comprehensive field, is offered to every  
lover of Truth & usefulness, in bring-  
ing to light the Medicinal virtues of  
the those not yet entirely explored  
Kingdoms of Nature, for while stroll-  
ing in fields & forests, some one of us  
may be struck by the beauty & luxury,  
or the utter insignificance of some wild  
blossom, proving to be the similia  
for Phthisis Pulmonalis, or some other  
now incurable disease. And thus  
add a rock in solidifying the base  
of the temple of Homoeopathy.-----

Thus will & must rock be add-  
ed to rock, until it shall be sufficient-  
ly spacious to contain the afflicted



of Earth, and by its scientific construction suited to the wants & necessities of each, restore them to health.

But not alone upon the remedial properties of Medicines, do our great Therapeutic axiom expend its influence, There is not a single branch of Medical Science, that does not receive new light, & assume new features, each more in harmony with general science & unity in its various branches. Vitality was known, but its laws had not been explored or ascertained: like gravity observed, but the laws of this natural agent remained unexplored until brought to light by the genius of Newt. Thus, in this controlling power in the Medical art, Vitality

There had been no examinations up to  
 This time of Hahnemann. Upon  
 This field did The genius of Hahnemann  
 enter & dispensed The gloom &  
 darkness which overshadowed it.  
 No one preceded him, he brought to  
 light its laws. This field ~~was~~ the summit  
 level of them all. He perceived, first  
 The law of cure, based on The prin-  
 ciple of resistance & reaction, and  
 demonstrated it as a law of Vitality.  
 It was Hahnemann then who bran-  
 ght to light This great principle, that  
 whatever disturbs The current of  
 life, That current will beat against  
 it with certainty unless destroyed.  
 This principle is The basis of The  
 Therapeutical law of Homeopathy, that  
 like will cure like, if a cure can be  
 wrought. It may be confidently depended



upon, being the result of a treatment so conformable to Nature. It is so perfectly without exception, Scientific, rapid beyond all expectation, that no system under the sun can compare with it.

He further discovered as a law of Vitality. The surmising certainty in ascertaining disease, by its symptoms, which was a complete conception of it requisite to enable him to effect a cure, the internal essential condition or Nature of the abnormal state. And after so perfect a determination of the continuance of this secret enemy to the laws of Vitality, how easily can it be detected & exterminated, when met with in the Praxis Medica, in its true colors by the law of similarity. A law

so full of virtue & so well sustained  
 by the pillars of Truth, must be to  
 empirical Medicine, as a towering ever-  
 green with outstretched boughs, decora-  
 ted with flowers of rare beauty, &  
 fragrance; To a mere shrub supported  
 by a worm-eaten stem, subject to be re-  
 sturned by a gentle zephyr. Without  
 Hahnemann's beautiful discovery, ex-  
 perience is the sole & very limited gu-  
 ide of Medicine, derived from the ob-  
 servation of phenomena. In it, we  
 possess the key to these phenomena,  
 and was the first ray of light by  
 which Medicine could claim her place  
 amongst the exact sciences. With it,  
 harmonious order predominates, the mis-  
 tery of what has been, is revealed in  
 its true colors, & what is to be conso-  
 fely be depended upon. But in this-



absence of this law of nature. The imagination vainly wanders over floating fields of wonderful but-disjoined facts.

What is the social position of Medicine? Ask any layman & he will reply without hesitation. That it is a humbug. And is there not sufficient cause for the want of confidence on the part of the layman or the public, when they have seen so much of its evil consequences, & when it has too often come short of manifesting its healing powers, & lastly when there is so much discord in the ranks of its followers, ever since its boasted two thousand years, which cannot be otherwise, when it has been based upon so vacillating a foundation as empiricism. This condition of the

public mind, is an immense social evil.  
 It is entitled to our sympathy, & best  
 efforts for its correction. Notwithstanding  
 the evil is wide spread, & Hom-  
 oepathy in common with Allopathy suf-  
 fers by it. In it Medicine has become  
 a true art, & therefore the cause has ceas-  
 ed to exist, its influence remains, &  
 time will be required to recover for  
 legitimate Medicine its rightful pos-  
 ition. Allopathy is indebted to a  
 defective art for its origin, & owes its  
 protracted existence to public ignoran-  
 ce in Medicine. If we behold the ter-  
 rible confusion, & want of unanimity of  
 sentiment, persuading the bosoms of  
 a whole people, or a mighty nation, &  
 altogether a revolutionary spirit abroad.  
 We may safely predict the downfall of  
 that people or nation. Just so



With The old system of Medicine,  
 When we see discord in its ranks, a want  
 of success in its treatment - and  
 above all such a diversity of sentiment  
 among its leading authors, we may  
 safely conclude in this case as in the  
 former, that the system will soon  
 or later be second among the things  
 that were. It is in concord with  
 inspiration, an injunction, which  
 has ever & anon proved true, & worthy  
 of the acceptance of all, as certainly  
 being the best code of laws we have  
 which is acknowledged by all, even the  
 disbeliever in holy writ: - That a house  
 divided against itself must fall.

Then if this ominous prediction  
 be true, is not demolition written  
 over the very shrine of the temple  
 of Allopathy? for it certainly does not

must with the approbation of the infinite Creator, who hurls not worlds at random, but governs them in their correct orbits by certain laws.

Laws then, & arguments to those laws, is the positive precept, which has received the stamp of the immortal signet.

Where can we look for a more virtuous law of Medicine, aside from the goveling & circumstance theories of men, which is as shifting as the winds? I with a host of others who rally under philanthropic color of the flag of Hahnemann, point to its inscription *Similia Similibus Curantur*, good will towards all men but death to disease, an inscription, as inviolate as the laws of Nature.



This is an age of improvement, a great practical fact which cannot be kept too constantly before the mind, in all the concerns of life. It has a special bearing upon the ever living truths of Homeopathy, in causing the skeptic to ponder & experiment upon its laws, not superficially, to enable him to discover faults & apparent inconsistencies, but with that degree of interest, which would cause him to weigh & appreciate its merits, sublime in its simplicity & truthfulness, & pre-eminently successful in practice.

It is true the retrospective history of Similia has presented rather a dark & dispiriting aspect. Like every great discovery destined for a while to succumb to the many inconvincences by which it is surrounded, until the

Mighty lover of Truth, shall unseal  
The vision of human nature & free its  
limbs from the shackles of error.-----

But is it advancing? Surely it is, full  
of confidence, free from doubt, & undou-  
bling steadiness. Its radiant truth  
sparkles on almost every shore, with  
the brightness of the noonday sun, which  
was at first a mere conception of  
the father of Medicine. It will ere  
long dispense the last lingering ray  
of empiricism, which is a mere ph-  
osphorescent bubble in the mighty  
Ocean of the already accumulated facts.  
Which shall ever be as beacons to  
illuminate the pathway of usefulness,  
& by its effulgent beams, anchor the  
ship of Medicine as firm & immov-  
able as the rock of the Anchorite in  
the sacred waters of the Ganges, baffling



every effort for its removal. But still  
 leaving its majestic form, not only in its  
 primitive greatness, which excites pleas-  
 urable emotions in him who views or con-  
 templates it; but it adds additional lus-  
 ters, by eliciting from the deep buried  
 treasury of its hidden recesses, diamonds,  
 its deepest-brightest & richest stones.  
 And thus consolidated, by these pre-  
 cious jewels, it will stand until the  
 last repple shall sweep the shores  
 of time. Truth has stirred the  
 drapery that has hitherto, wrapped  
 the medical world in its shade. —

The present age has heard the death  
 bell of the past; amidst the midnight  
 of its birth, slowly its shades are  
 passing, & they who have not learned  
 the course of the stars, will deem  
 the Knight eternal. But others

as the faithful Shepherd, who  
can see these lights arise & set again  
will pronounce them heralds of the  
blaze of Truth.

Hahnemann, whose  
Name we cherish for the most pre-  
cious Treasury of his genius, the un-  
failing light shed upon the past  
history of Medicine, will live & flour-  
ish with increasing vigor to the end  
of time, to imbue future generati-  
ons yet unborn, with the philos-  
ophy of Medicine.



Essay.

Progress of Medicine.

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